



# Shade Garden for Pollinators

These plants were selected for their shade tolerance and their pollinator value.

**Serviceberry\***  
*Amelanchier canadensis*

A wonderful spring bloomer with edible berries. This plant supports mining and sweat bees, and is great for height and structure in the garden.

SB

1 plant

**Fetterbush\***  
*Eubotrys racemosa*

This plant is great for shade and is deer resistant. Bees and butterflies visit the flowers. Beautiful evergreen winter foliage in an array of maroons and purples.

FB

3 plants

**Sweetspire\***  
*Itea Virginica*

Easy-to-grow shrub and host plant for the American holly azure. Also visited by bees and other butterflies. Its creamy white, bottlebrush flower opens in spring. Reds and maroon foliage in fall.

SS

3 plants

**Great Blue Lobelia\***  
*Lobelia siphilitica*

Striking blue summer flowers support hummingbirds native bees, bumblebees and sweat bees. It often reseeds in the garden over time and likes moist soil.

GBL

6 plants

**Dwarf Crested Iris\***  
*Iris cristata*

Spring ephemeral bloomer that supports hummingbirds and bees. It's a low grower filling in the ground layer of your pollinator garden. Good for wet areas.

DCI

6 plants

**Spotted Geranium\***  
*Geranium maculatum*

Supports butterflies and many native bees. Easy to grow and spreads as a medium-height groundcover. Crushed leaves emit odor that repels biting insects.

SG

6 plants

**Turtlehead\***  
*Chelone glabra*

A summer bloomer with white flowers to attract bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Host for endangered Baltimore checkerspot and the buckeye. Does well in moist soil.

TH

6 plants

**Cutleaf Bleeding Heart\***  
*Dicentra eximia*

A lovely early spring flower that supports hummingbirds, butterflies and long-tongued bees. It often dies back in the summer heat and may show a regeneration of leaves in the fall.

CBH

6 plants

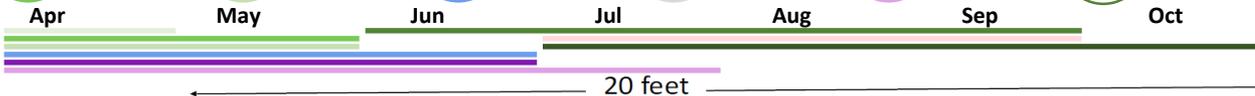
**White Wood Aster\***  
*Eurybia divaricata*

This easy-to-grow plant has attractive basal leaves and a pretty white fall bloom. It is a late-season food source for butterflies and bees, and spreads as a groundcover.

WWA

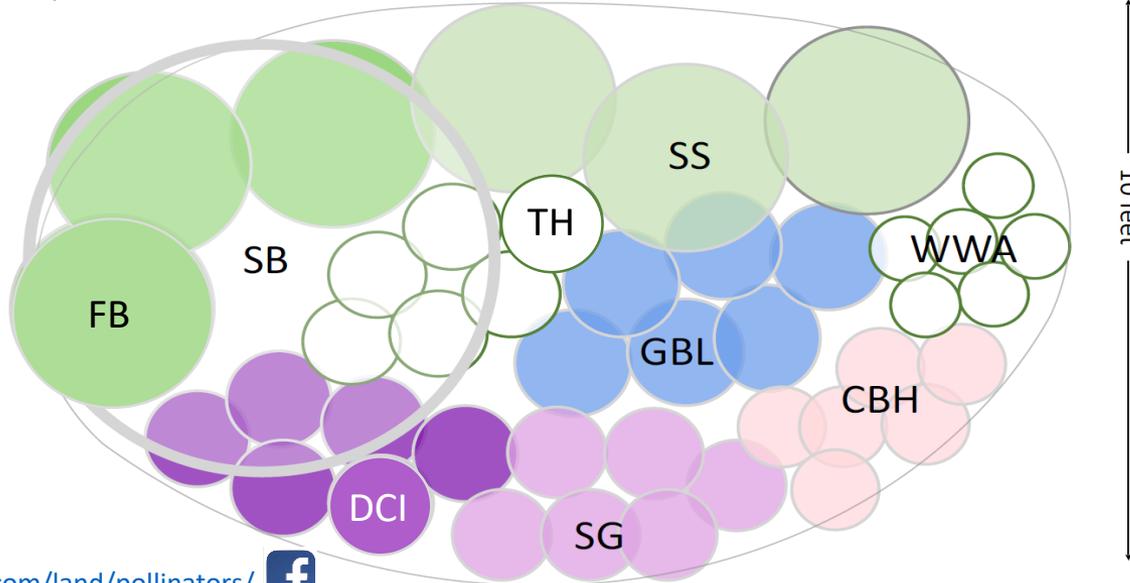
6 plants

Bloom Times:



\* Deer-resilient, resists or withstands some browsing.

Note: This design is flexible based on available space. To make this garden smaller, reduce the number of plants per species.



Featured Pollinator:  
**Ruby Throated Hummingbird**  
*Archilochus colubris*

Loves to feed on many of our shade pollinator garden selections like white turtlehead, spotted geranium, great blue lobelia and cutleaf bleeding heart. These hummingbirds make beautiful thimble-sized nests and are expert flyers. They can even fly backwards!

More Info on Bee City:

<https://livegreenhoward.com/land/pollinators/>



# Alternates for selected species

The following plant species can be alternately combined to create a pollinator garden in shade conditions. For more information about native plants and other pollinator resources, visit: [livegreenhoward.com/land/pollinators/](http://livegreenhoward.com/land/pollinators/)

								
SB	FB	SS	GBL	DCI	SG	TH	CBH	WWA
<b>Serviceberry*</b> White Fringetree* <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> Witch Hazel <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> Sweetbay Magnolia* <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	<b>Fetterbush*</b> Mountain laurel* <i>Kalmia latifolia</i> Inkberry Holly* <i>Ilex glabra</i> Rosebay Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	<b>Sweetspire*</b> Dwarf Fothergilla* <i>Fothergilla gardenia</i> Summersweet <i>Clethra alnifolia</i> Smooth Hydrangea <i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	<b>Great Blue Lobelia*</b> Dutchman's Breeches* <i>Dicentra cucullaria</i> Eastern Columbine* <i>Aquilegia Canadensis</i> Virginia Bluebells* <i>Mertensia virginica</i>	<b>Dwarf Crested Iris*</b> Jacob's Ladder <i>Polemonium reptans</i> Foamflower* <i>Tiarella cordifolia</i> Wild Ginger* <i>Asarum canadense</i>	<b>Spotted Geranium*</b> Cardinal Flower* <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Blue Flag Iris* <i>Iris versicolor</i> Bottlebrush Grass* <i>Elymus hystrix</i>	<b>Turtlehead*</b> Woodland Phlox <i>Phlox divaricata</i> Spiderwort* <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> Golden Ragwort* <i>Packera aurea</i>	<b>Cutleaf Bleeding Heart*</b> Foxglove Beardtongue* <i>Penstemon digitalis</i> Tall Meadow Rue* <i>Thalictrum pubescens</i> Clustered Mountain Mint* <i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>	<b>White Wood Aster*</b> Gray Goldenrod* <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> Black Cohosh* <i>Actaea racemosa</i> Green and Gold* <i>Chrysogonum virginiana</i>

## Why Plant Natives?

### ENJOY A BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE

The many textures, colors and habits of native plants can be combined in attractive designs. Choose a natural-looking or more formal style.

### PRESERVE MARYLAND'S BIODIVERSITY

Many bees provision their nests with pollen from native plants, and butterflies and moths eat native species at the larval stage. Birds, in turn, feed an abundance of these caterpillars to their young. Going native supports this whole food web.

### IMPROVE WATER QUALITY AND REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Conventional gardens often employ fertilizers, pesticides, supplemental water, and fossil-fuel-using machinery – resulting in poor soil health, erosion, and polluted stormwater runoff.

## How You Can Help Pollinators

### PROVIDE FOOD

Plant a succession of native blooms of different shapes, sizes and colors from spring to fall. Choose native species over cultivars when possible.

Plant densely, using native groundcovers as “green mulch,” leaving some bare soil for the 70 percent of native bees that nest in the ground.

Plant in drifts of 3 or more plants to be noticed by pollinators.

### PROVIDE WATER SOURCES

Include mud-puddling areas for butterflies. (Refresh water often to deter mosquitoes.)

### PROVIDE SHELTER

Add nesting sites for bees, caterpillars and others by leaving fallen leaves where possible and incorporating dead wood (stalks, logs, stumps) into the garden.

### SAFEGUARD POLLINATOR HABITAT

Control invasive plants, and avoid pesticides when possible

Photo Credits:

<https://tinyurl.com/y9hvgu2n>

